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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: H. MORIMOTO
Serial No.: 10/816,913
Filed: April 5, 2004
For: STORAGE UNIT, STORAGE UNIT CONTROL METHOD, AND
STORAGE SYSTEM
Group: 2185
Examiner: J. Yu

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 1, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 1, 2006, setting a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 1, 2006, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in light of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks are included following the amendments.